

# Aging In Place and Community

## Meeting Notes

### January 12, 2011

**Commission Members:** Elaine Binder, John Honig, Miriam Kelty, Beth Shapiro, Grace Whipple

**Guests:** Deborah Adler (Easter Seals), Amy Cole (Jewish Council on Aging), Sue Dollins (Senior Connection), Irwin Goldbloom (Past COA Chair), Austin Heyman (Senior Fellow, Office of Community Partnerships)

**Invited Guest:** Mary Leary (Easter Seals Project Action)

**Staff:** Odile Saddi

Topic	Discussion Points	Decisions/follow-up
Mary Leary, Senior Director Easter Seals Project Action	<p>Mary was invited to present to the AIPC to provide updates and educate us on Project Action. The presentation was full of useful information and we now understand that Mary and Project Action, via federal funding, are there to serve multiple communities and will make a wonderful resource for us. Among others, she emphasized the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strive for Context Sensitive Solutions’ – human services side ‘What people need.’</li> <li>• Consider the ‘The Last Mile’ (how to get to and from transportation) as part of the planning process.</li> <li>• Drivers need to be trained to be senior friendly.</li> <li>• Lack of transportation and mobility means missed doctors’ appointments, depression, loss of socialization and caregiver time off.</li> <li>• Creating livable, sustainable and accessible communities reduces costs and improves public health.</li> <li>• Services need to be coordinated and person directed.</li> </ul>	PDF attached.

Topic	Discussion Points	Decisions/follow-up
Transportation and Mobility Principles	<p>Discussion about the County DOT and County's Transportation Core work group draft for an 'Aging Policy for Montgomery in comparison to the AIPC committee's vision for the document. The committee expressed concern that the DOT and Transportation Core Workgroup draft is more a list of goals vs. a draft for a policy. The AIPC agreed that after a policy is approved, a plan needs to be developed to implement the policy. In addition, the AIPC believes that the policy should not be limited to the DOT but should be one that comes from HHS so it will affect all related departments. Also discussed was the positive effect such a policy and plan could have on communities beyond aging such as the Disability community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principles must be determined before a policy can be written.</li> <li>• Policy must be established before developing a plan.</li> </ul>